GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:55
ANSWERED ON:17.02.2009
EXPORT OF MARINE PRODUCTS
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the share of marine products export in total exports of the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether producers and exporters of marine products lack proper infrastructure;

(c) if so, the details of such infrastructural constraints and the steps taken to remove them;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to encourage the producers and exporters of marine products to adopt new techniques used in other countries; and

(e) if so, the details of steps taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) The share of marine products export in total exports of the country during each of the last three years are as under:

	(Values in US $ Million) 2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Total exports	103090.5	126361.5 (Revised)	159006.7 (Provisional)
Marine Products	1644.21	1852.93	1899.09
Percentage	1.59%	1.47%	1.19%

(b) & (c) The Government in consultation with the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) is taking various steps to remove the infrastructural constraints. During the current Five Year Plan, the Government has introduced a scheme i.e. Technology Upgradation Scheme for Marine Products. Under the scheme, a beneficiary can avail capital or interest subsidy for setting up of a new processing plant or for upgradation of the existing processing plant.

In addition, MPEDA is operating a number of other schemes in the coastal region for developing infrastructure for marine products and has disbursed subsidy of about Rs. 25 crores during the last three years to the processors/exporters.

(d) & (e) With a view to educate the producers/exporters, MPEDA has availed the services of an Australian tuna fishing expert to train the Indian crew in proper operation of monofilament long line technology and handling of catch on board. MPEDA has also signed an MoU with Government of Switzerland for the technical cooperation from the Swiss Import Promotion Programme (SIPPO) for initiating the programme on the organic shrimp farming in India. Effort are being made to popularize organic aquaculture in the states of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal.

MPEDA has also signed an MoU with Innovation Norway (IN) a Norwegian company for introducing Cage culture farming in Andaman & Nichobar islands. The Rajiv Gandhi Centre of Aquaculture (RGCA), a society under MPEDA has developed Specific Pathogen Free Broodstock of Tiger Shrimp to G3 generation at its facility in Andamans. MPEDA is also sending delegations abroad and participating in international summit/exhibitions/fairs of marine products to update its knowledge of the latest technologies adopted in other countries.